

**FILE**

5-9-02 (C)

Complaint  
# 20366

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RECEIVED

APR 29 2002

BRICKFIELD DONAHUE

By: Marilyn Bair  
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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF

ADRIANNE BUSH

Unlicensed to Practice  
Professional Counseling  
In the State of New Jersey

Administrative Action

CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened to the New Jersey Professional Counselor Examiners Committee (hereinafter "the Committee") upon receipt of information that Adrienne Bush (hereinafter "respondent") was providing counseling services in the State of New Jersey without a license. Specifically, a complaint from T.J. alleged that respondent had seen his daughter, K.J., for therapeutic counseling despite the fact that respondent was not licensed by the State.

On November 1, 2001 respondent appeared with counsel, Joseph Donahue, Esq., for an investigative inquiry into the matter before the Committee. Respondent stated that she took correspondence courses at the International Metaphysical Ministry/University of Metaphysics whereby she became an ordained Metaphysical minister of the International Metaphysical Ministry. Respondent asserted the belief that as an ordained minister she could provide "pastoral counseling" in New Jersey without a license. The investigative report, the inquiry, and respondent's certification revealed that respondent advertised in the yellow pages of telephone books as a counselor providing marriage, family, child and individual counseling. Additionally, respondent's letterhead and business card show the name of her for-profit, private counseling business as "Life Management Skills Counseling Services". Respondent testified that she saw approximately two to six clients a week for one hour sessions, and she accepted fees for those services.

Having reviewed the entire record, it appears to the Committee that respondent has engaged in the unlicensed practice of professional counseling in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:8B-39, as well as engaging in misrepresentation within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 56:8-2 (Consumer Fraud Act) by having advertised and/or engaged in offering counseling services to the public which she was not legally authorized to engage in or to offer.

Without admitting or denying the violations, respondent desires to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings, and therefore, for good cause shown:

IT IS ON THIS        DAY OF        2002,

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:


1. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from offering to provide and providing any counseling services in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:8B-39. Respondent shall immediately withdraw and cancel any advertising of herself as a counselor as defined in N.J.S.A. 45:8B-36.
2. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from engaging in misrepresentation in violation of the Consumer Fraud Act, N.J.S.A. 56:8-2, by advertising and/or engaging in counseling services to the public which she is not legally authorized to perform.
3. Respondent hereby agrees to pay a civil penalty in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) because the parties desire to resolve this matter without recourse to formal proceedings.
4. Respondent shall pay the costs of the investigation of this matter in the amount of three thousand, four hundred dollars (\$3,400.00).
5. Respondent shall pay the above penalty and cost, totaling three thousand, nine hundred dollars (\$3,900.00) in twenty, consecutive, monthly payments of one hundred and ninety-five dollars (\$195.00) per payment. The first payment shall be due on

or before June 15, 2002, and the remaining nineteen payments shall be due on or before the fifteenth day of each month until the penalty and costs are paid in full. Payment shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to Dennis Gonzalez, Executive Director, Professional Counselor Examiners Committee, P.O. Box 45044, Newark, New Jersey 07101. If any payment is untimely, the full amount shall be immediately due and payable.


6. Should respondent fail to comply with the terms of this order, respondent may be subject to enhanced penalties pursuant to the Uniform Enforcement Act, N.J.S.A. 45:1-25, and the Consumer Fraud Act, N.J.S.A. 56:8-13 and N.J.S.A. 56:8-18.

7. The parties further agree that this Consent Order is a compromise and settlement of disputed claims. Neither the execution of this Consent Order nor the payments made hereunder shall be deemed an admission of liability or wrongdoing by respondent.

NEW JERSEY PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS  
EXAMINERS COMMITTEE

  
J. Barry Mascari, LPC

I have read the within Consent Order and understand its terms. I hereby consent to its entry and to be bound by the Consent Order's terms.

  
Adrienne Bush